

STILLAGUAMISH – STILLAGUAMISH COHO

STOCK STATUS

1992 STATUS

Depressed

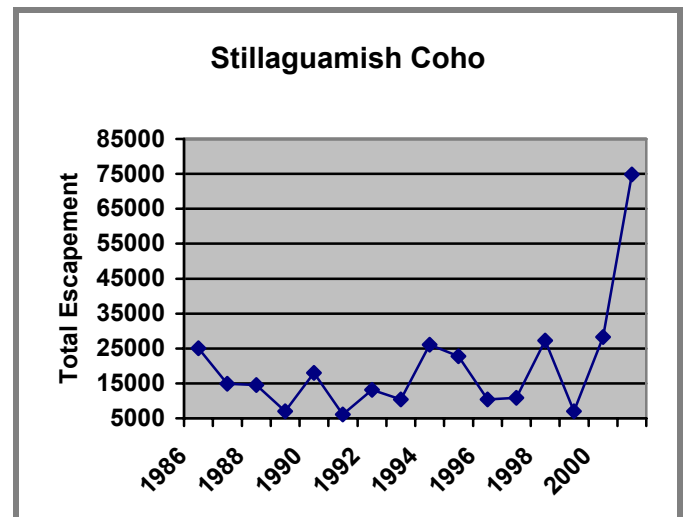
2002 STATUS

Healthy

STOCK STATUS RATING DATA

USEFULNESS FOR RATING STOCK STATUS: Fair

YEAR	TOTAL ESCAPEMENT
1986	25,100
1987	14,900
1988	14,500
1989	7,000
1990	18,000
1991	6,100
1992	13,200
1993	10,400
1994	26,100
1995	22,800
1996	10,400
1997	10,900
1998	27,300
1999	7,000
2000	28,300
2001	74,800
2002	27,305



Data are total escapement estimates based on cumulative fish-days counts in index reaches (Unnamed stream 05.0030, Fish Cr, Unnamed streams 05.0064, 05.0150, and 05.0152, Furland Cr, Ashton Cr, Brown's Cr, Unnamed stream 05.0338C, Naval Base Cr (05.0339), Jordan Cr, Unnamed stream 05.0358A, Tiger Cr, Bensen Cr, Hemple Cr, Schweitzer Cr, and unnamed stream 05.0434B).

In considering the 2002 status rating, we noted that the 1998 and 2000 escapements were similar to the higher years observed in the past. This observation was tempered by the relatively low 1996, 1997, and 1999 escapements. Given that even the lower escapements observed are likely adequate to maintain stock productivity, and that there is no consistent downward trend in escapements, stock status is rated **Healthy** in 2002.

STOCK DEFINITION

Stillaguamish coho were identified as a stock based on their distinct spawning distribution.

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SPAWNING DISTRIBUTION: Spawning takes place throughout the basin unless access is blocked by natural or man-made barriers. Some important spawning areas are not accessible when flows are below normal during periods of adult migration to the spawning grounds.

SPAWNING TIMING: Spawning generally occurs from November until mid-January and occasionally into February.

GENETIC ANALYSIS: Allozyme analysis of coho sampled from Fortson Creek and McGovern Creek (both North Fork Stillaguamish tributaries) in 1987 and 1989 showed no significant differences between fish from these two tributaries. They differed significantly from all other Washington coho examined but were generally similar to Skagit basin coho (David Teel, NMFS, personal communication).

STOCK ORIGIN

This is a **mixed** stock with **wild** production. Skagit, Skykomish, Samish, Green River (Duwamish), and Issaquah Creek hatchery-origin coho were released into the Stillaguamish drainage from the early 1950s to 1981. Hybridization between the native stock and introduced non-native stocks may have occurred.